

Message Text

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PAGE 01 MOSCOW 18328 211101Z

ACTION EB-08

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 EA-10 ISO-00 SOE-01 AID-05 CEA-01
CIAE-00 COME-00 DODE-00 DOE-12 H-01 INR-07 INT-05
L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 OMB-01 PM-05 USIA-06 OES-07
SP-02 SS-15 STR-05 TRSE-00 ACDA-12 /124 W
-----114543 211225Z /17

R 211015Z DEC 77

FM AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5862

INFO AMEMBASSY STOCKHOLM

AMEMBASSY HELSINKI

AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY TOKYO

C O N F I D E N T I A L MOSCOW 18328

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: ENRG, EEWT, UR, SW, XZ

SUBJECT: SOVIET NATURAL GAS

1. DURING CONVERSATION ON ANOTHER SUBJECT DECEMBER 20 (SEPTTEL)
SWEDISH COMMERCIAL COUNSELOR (HUELTURNER) IMPARTED SUBSTANCE OF
RECENT CONVERSATION WITH SOVIET GOSPLAN OFFICIAL (MORDVINOV,
CHIEF OF "FOREIGN COUNTRIES" SECTION) ABOUT DEVELOPMENT OF
SOVIET NATURAL GAS INDUSTRY.

2. ACCORDING TO HUELTURNER, MORDVINOV URGED THAT NORDIC COUNTRIES
SHOULD GET TOGETHER AND BARGAIN FOR SUBSTANTIAL SUPPLY OF SOVIET
GAS, TO BE DELIVERED THROUGH HELSINKI. HUELTURNER SAID THAT SWEDES
HOPE TO OBTAIN SMALL SUPPLY OF SOVIET GAS -- ABOUT ONE TO TWO
BILLION CUBIC METERS ANNUALLY AT OUTSET -- FROM RUHRGAS A.G.
EVEN THOUGH SWEDISH NEEDS MIGHT EVENTUALLY BE AS HIGH AS FOUR TO
SIX BCM PER YEAR, HE SAID, IT WOULD NOT JUSTIFY CONSTRUCTION OF
PIPELINE TO FINLAND. HUELTURNER THOUGHT IDEA OF SCANDINAVIANS
AGREEING TO JOINT PURCHASE SOVIET GAS WAS OUT OF THE QUESTION.
CURRENT PROBLEM IS APPARENTLY ONE OF INSUFFICIENT CAPACITY IN
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PAGE 02 MOSCOW 18328 211101Z

SOVIET PIPELINE TO WESTERN EUROPE TO PERMIT EXPANSION OF CONSUMPTION
ON THAT END.

3. MORDVINOV ALSO TOLD HUELTURNER, APPARENTLY ON BASIS OF THE
FORMER'S MOST RECENT MEETING WITH JAPANESE HERE IN MOSCOW,
THAT SOVIETS ARE NOW THINKING OF TAKING A HIGHER SHARE OF
PRODUCTION FROM YAKUTIA NATURAL GAS, WHEN (AND IF) THIS

PROJECT IS CARRIED OUT. MORDVINOV, WHO TOLD HUELSTNER THAT
SPLIT HAS HERTOFORBE BEEN FORESEEN AS "10 U.S., 10 JAPAN AND
5 SOVIET" (PRESUMABLY BCM PER ANNUM), APPARENTLY DID NOT SAY
OUT OF WHOSE "SHARE" THE INCREASED SOVIET CONSUMPTION WOULD
COME.
TOON

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NNN

Message Attributes

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Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 21-Dec-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
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Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
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Secure: OPEN
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TAGS: ENRG, EEWT, UR, SW, XZ
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